

FM THE WHITE HOUSE TOHAK 78

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~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD~~ [REDACTED]

CHANNELS WH30060

TOHAK 78

DELIVER TO LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER

JANUARY 11, 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

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FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

THE WASHINGTON POST

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

MORI PER C03355526

JONATHAN RANDAL, IN HIS REPORT ON THE PARIS TALKS, IS INTRIGUED BY A NORTH VIETNAMESE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE THURSDAY MEETING WOULD ALSO INCLUDE TECHNICAL EXPERTS. THE ONLY VISIBLE VARIATION IN THE CHILLY SURFACE ATMOSPHERE WAS PROVIDED BY A NORTH VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT WHOM NEWSMEN SAW SHAKING YOUR HAND. (A-1)

ELLIOT RICHARDSON TOLD CONGRESS YESTERDAY THAT THE U.S. COULD END ITS ROLE IN VIETNAM NOW IF THE PRISONER ISSUE WERE SETTLED, BUT THAT SUCH A PULLOUT "REMAINS UNSATISFACTORY IN THAT PEACE IN THE AREA IS NOT ACHIEVED." (A-1)

THE BOMBING, ACCORDING TO A WASHINGTON POST SURVEY OF 32 SENATE OFFICES. EVEN SENATORS WHO HAVE BEEN STRONG SUPPORTERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S VIETNAM POLICIES ARE RECEIVING VOLUMES OF MAIL OPPOSING THE BOMBING. NOT A SINGLE OFFICE REPORTED A BALANCE IN FAVOR OF THE BOMBING, AND ONLY THREE REPORTED AN EVEN SPLIT BETWEEN PRO-BOMBING AND ANTI-BOMBING LETTERS. (A-12)

THE VIET CONG WAS REPORTED TO HAVE CALLED FOR AN URGENT CONFERENCE OF NONALIGNED NATIONS TO HELP END THE VIETNAM WAR. MRS. BINH HAD APPEALED FOR THE MEETING IN LETTERS SENT TO FOREIGN MINISTERS OF NONALIGNED NATIONS ON THE NEW YEAR. (A-12)

ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE, HOBART ROWEN COMMENTS IT IS HARD TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE DRAMATIC SWITCH FROM EXPECTATIONS OF PEACE TO THE DECEMBER RESUMPTION OF THE BOMBING. "THE ECONOMIC MOMENTUM FOR ANOTHER BIG YEAR WAS CLEARLY AT HAND. IT MAY STILL BE, BUT THE TURN-AROUND IN PEACE CREATES SOME DOUBT," ACCORDING TO ROWEN. (A-19)

IN AN UNEXPECTED AND POTENTIALLY FAR-REACHING MOVE, CHINA HAS OFFERED TO SELL CRUDE OIL TO JAPAN, AND THE JAPANESE HAVE QUICKLY PICKED UP THE OFFER. (A-26)

THE NEW YORK TIMES

FLORA LEWIS COVERS YESTERDAY'S FOUR-HOUR NEGOTIATING SESSION ON THE FRONT PAGE OF TODAY'S TIMES. SOVIET SOURCES CONTINUE TO DISPLAY EAGERNESS TO SEE A SETTLEMENT OF THE WAR, BUT AT THE SAME TIME INDICATE THAT HANOI STILL HASN'T CHANGED ITS NEGOTIATING POSITION, THEREFORE INDICATING AN ABSENCE OF PROGRESS IN THE CURRENT ROUND OF TALKS. (A-1)

OF HOANG DUC NHA AND HIS IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. TODAY, PRESIDENT THIEU APPOINTED NHA HEAD OF THE NEW NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INFORMATION. NHA, BEING THIEU'S CLOSEST AID, HAD INCREASED HIS ROLE IN FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS AND PLAYS A KEY HAND IN THIEU'S POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC ACTIONS. (A-12)

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT WHILE THE RECENT EXCHANGE OF PROPOSALS WITH CUBA FOR A TREATY TO DETER HIJACKING HAD PRODUCED SOME MOVEMENT, UNRESOLVED DIFFERENCES STILL REMAIN. (A-3)

THE BALTIMORE SUN

DUE TO THE LACK OF SURFACE CORDIALITY AND COUNTESY BETWEEN YOU AND LE DUC THO, EXPECTATIONS OF A PEACE AGREEMENT BEFORE INAUGURATION SEEM DOUBTFUL. THE FACT THAT AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN AND MR. THACH JOINED YOU AND THO LATER IN THE DAY GAVE SOME EVIDENCE THAT SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN REACHED DURING THE TECHNICAL SESSIONS. (A-1)

STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN CHARLES BRAY SAID THERE IS A STANDING INJUNCTION AGAINST SPECULATION -- WHETHER IDLE OR INFORMED WITH RESPECT TO THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS. BRAY ALSO SAID THAT AMERICAN EMBASSIES AND POSTS ABROAD HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED WITH MATERIAL AMERICAN AMBASSADORS COULD DRAW UPON TO EXPLAIN THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO RENEW THE BOMBING. (A-2)

THE WHITE HOUSE SAID YESTERDAY THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS NO PLANS FOR A TRIP TO EUROPE. WIDESPREAD SPECULATION THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD ATTEND TO EUROPEAN MATTERS STEMMED FROM YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 15, WHEN YOU SAID THAT YOU TOLD EUROPEAN LEADERS THAT AS SOON AS MR. NIXON "WOULD BE LESS PRESSED BY DIPLOMATIC EXIGENCIES, HE HOPED TO RESUME MOST INTENSE CONSULTATIONS WITH OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS."